

QUID NOVI

Journal des étudiant-e-s
en droit de l'université McGill

McGill Law's
Weekly Student Newspaper

Volume 33, n°19

27 mars 2012 | March 27th 2012



Photo: Charlie Feldman

QUID NOVI

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WANT TO TALK? TU VEUX T'EXPRIMER?

Envoyez vos commentaires ou articles avant
jeudi 17h à l'adresse : quid.law@mcgill.ca

Toute contribution doit indiquer le nom de
l'auteur, son année d'étude ainsi qu'un titre
pour l'article. L'article ne sera publiée qu'à la
discretion du comité de rédaction, qui

basera sa décision sur la politique de
rédition.

Contributions should preferably be submitted as
a .doc attachment (and not, for instance, a
".docx.").

HÉLIA
TAHERI

PRACTICE YOU WHAT YOU PREACH

« Il est défendu de tuer; tout meurtrier est puni, à moins qu'il n'ait tué en grande compagnie, et au son des trompettes. », dit Voltaire dans son *Dictionnaire philosophique*. Ne nous illustre-t-il pas un excellent exemple d'un double standard? Concept universel qui a toujours été présent dans la société et qui l'est encore. Concept universel qui passe presque inaperçu; peut-être que nous nous y sommes habitués.

Mais qu'est-ce qu'un double standard? D'où vient ce concept et quelle place occupe-t-il dans la société? Je doute fortement pouvoir répondre à ces questions, mais essayons d'y songer un peu.

Dictionary.com defines double standard as “any code or set of principles containing different provisions for one group of people than for another, especially an unwritten code of sexual behavior permitting men more freedom than women.” Wikipedia gives a more general definition: “A double standard is the application of different sets of principles for similar situations, or to different people in the same situation.”

Peut-être que le terme double standard est assez jeune en soi. Mes recherches n'ont pas été fructueuses à ce sujet. Or, le concept remonte à ...eh bien, à il y a très longtemps! L'exemple le plus ancien que j'ai trouvé figure dans le *Deutéronome*, le cinquième livre de la Bible hébraïque. De Saint Augustin à Virginia Woolf, nombreux auteurs, poètes et philosophes, au fil des années, exposent les problèmes qui surviennent lorsque l'on applique un principe à une certaine situation, mais pas à d'autres situations homologues. Que ce soit dans un contexte politique ou social, l'on a critiqué cette partialité basée sur le sexe, l'orientation sexuelle, la religion,

l'ethnicité, etc. Mais a-t-on critiqué sa présence dans la vie de tous les jours? Nous rendons-nous compte de l'abondance avec laquelle nous appliquons un double standard à nos conversations, à nos arguments et à notre comportement avec les autres?

Facebook statuses, Facebook comments! Take a look at them and maybe it will hit you too. We all know that Facebook has become a new forum for debates. Take a look and ask yourself if the author would have made a certain comment had he shared the opposite point of view.

Human interactions! Take a look at them and maybe it will hit you too. We declare holding each other to a single standard. But in practice, we disregard the standard when it is time to apply it to ourselves. Take a look and ask yourself if we would react the same way had we been the authors of an act that we denounce. We often act with such self-righteous outrage as if we were saints and we have never done something equally condemnable! Easy to condemn when we are not the ones being condemned.

Je crois qu'un peu d'introspection et une légère touche d'autocritique ne peuvent que nous faire du bien. Je crois qu'il est possible d'argumenter sans livrer bataille; la nuance entre être provocateur et être irrévérencieux reste une nuance, mais elle est là. Je crois qu'il est possible d'interagir avec les gens sans s'attendre à ce qu'ils nous offrent plus que ce que nous leur offrons. Peut-être devrait-on être plus attentif à nos gestes, être plus ouvert d'esprit et être plus honnête avec soi-même. Peut-être que le monde serait alors un endroit plus paisible.

WHY I VOTED AGAINST THE J.D.

Acknowledgement: The opinions expressed below are entirely my own. However, I am indebted to Professor Macdonald's use of this topic in a lecture in The Administrative Process for my approach to the issue.

I write without benefit of knowing the LSA election results. It seems to be a safe guess that the referendum question on changing the degree designation from LL.B. to J.D. will have passed easily, and I write from that assumption.

Voting in favour of this question was a mistake. Not because there's an intrinsic value to be retained in the LL.B. designation, but because we were asked to support a proposition for which there is insufficient evidence. Some of the arguments in the preamble to the question give good reason to support gathering further evidence; asking students to support the switch is at best premature.

The preamble refers extensively to the report "Juris Doctor McGillensis" in support of its arguments, reducing it to six main points which I will paraphrase: (1) Everyone else is doing it, (2-3) the J.D. is more recognizable and failure to adopt it may hinder employment, (4) maintaining the B.C.L./LL.B. designation may hinder student recruitment, (5) opposing arguments are unreasonable and wrong, (6) and it's just a cosmetic change anyway.

I'd like to begin by rejecting the argument implicit in the final point: although, of course, changes to the curriculum go through a process entirely separate from this decision, names and labels matter. This is why proponents of the J.D. are pus-

hing so hard, and why it's important to have a serious discussion. Changing the name of our degree reflects how we think about the degree itself and what it represents. Like it or not, we're asking an existential question and thorough institutional self-reflection is necessary to answer it.

The remaining argument can be boiled down to how others' perception of our program is shaped by the name of the degree awarded. It expresses an anxiety that the current degree designation puts the faculty and its students at a competitive disadvantage. Without discounting the seriousness of this claim, I would point to the letter from Professor Van Praagh, found at the end of the report, for the types of questions that still must be explored. I would suggest they can be summarized as one fundamental question which has not been answered: what would be the consequences of choosing to adopt the J.D. designation *at McGill*?

A reality that must be acknowledged, central to the question of how we designate our degree, is that the McGill Program, that transsystemic ideal to which we all wrote odes in our application letters, is not the same as a Common Law program elsewhere in Canada, nor is it the same as uOttawa's National Program. This is acknowledged at the beginning of the report, but it is cast aside without serious consideration of its bearing on the conclusions to be drawn and the questions to be asked.

This is important in part because McGill doesn't award an isolated LL.B. degree.

When asking how our degree designation is perceived, the subject of the inquiry should not be LL.B., but B.C.L./LL.B. There may be merit in avoiding a switch to the J.D., embracing the difference in designation, to celebrate McGill's distinctiveness. This is not unheard of: my first degree was designated B.Hum., as opposed to a B.A., in a conscious effort to indicate its difference from a typical B.A. The factors in favour of a switch may nonetheless outweigh this consideration and others – of course, it's important to designate the degree in a way that effectively communicates what a McGill law degree is, and if B.C.L./LL.B. doesn't accomplish that anymore a change ought to be made. What's important is that we engage in questions like these, most of which cannot be answered confidently from the experiences of other law faculties, and we gather empirical evidence before making our conclusions.

To be clear, I mean in no way to denigrate the work done in preparing "Juris Doctor McGillensis". Although I take issue with the decision to advocate the J.D., and some of its conclusions leading to the ultimate recommendation, it is clearly the result of a great deal of commendable work, and it provides a very strong argument to continue the conversation about changing the degree designation. My complaint, as I hope I have made clear, is that there is still more evidence to be gathered, narrowing down from the experiences of others to an analysis of our own peculiarities, in order to support a conclusion one way or the other.

JUST CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIALIZATION OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION AT MCGILL

PART TWO OF TWO

This is the second half of *Just Career Development and Socialization of the Legal Profession at McGill*. Part one appeared in last week's edition.

This is not merely a concern germane to those dedicated to careers in public service. Concerns about access to justice, the rule of law, and the ability of our legal systems to adapt to the twin challenges of climate change and declining energy reserves will require us to consider novel forms of legal practice. I recently served as a rapporteur at the "Responsibility, Fraternity, and Sustainability in Law" symposium in honour of former Supreme Court Justice Charles Gonthier (the proceedings of which, on a side note, were quite amazing and are available here in toto : <http://cisl.org/gonthier/judge-gonthier-symposium/reports-videos.html>). It was only after participating in the symposium that I understood that his commitment to sustainability was not a side interest, but implicit in and fundamental to his understanding of the role of law in society and our responsibility as jurists. The normative lodestone of "fraternity" that Justice Gonthier so fervently called attention to captures the common thread in understandings of constitutional order and equality, the responsibilities we have towards current and future generations, and the democratic ethos that underpins respect for the rule of law and our understanding of what constitutes a democratic society. Appropriate regard to the extent to which the institutions that govern our society also concern themselves with the least of its members derives from this same concern. Yet the uniqueness of those who are the most capable among us following a path in the public interest was driven home further with the tragic loss this autumn of Alexandra Dodger,

who was herself just beginning to embark on a career in social justice with Amnesty International. Both Alex and Justice Gonthier took very seriously the need for institutions of justice, not least of which McGill but also the Supreme Court, to "walk the walk" as well as "talk the talk" of social justice - of holding ourselves to account for the ways in which we as individuals, as members of institutions, and as a community are giving due regard to social inequities.

We should have an understanding of how to approach the practical issues that arise out of such considerations not only in the classroom as students, or through internships or credited clerkships of limited duration, but also as potential future practitioners. To put the disproportionate burden for discovering these paths on students is to waste the potential we as a faculty have for a more profound contribution to the furtherance of the use of law as a mechanism for achieving justice. I for one would love to pursue a career in sustainable development, environmental justice, or accountability for corporate malfeasance which is necessary for our global economic systems to properly function. I still have only a very foggy notion of how to go about doing that, and certainly not how to do so while managing the significant debt burden I will have accumulated by the end of this year. As an international student I have a heavier burden than most, but students graduating from McGill who are called to such a path often must already take a "vow of poverty" in many cases (relatively speaking of course) to pursue social justice, and that's assuming they even find a position matching their interests. But on top of that, students who are curious about these possibilities may be burdened with the subconscious feeling that such a path

is not "typical"- that it is in a sense deviant relative to those career paths that are very clearly and openly laid out to us as students like hors d'oeuvres on an appetizer plate, both for those who follow that path and those who don't.

McGill has been an innovator in the study of law and the use of technology in the classroom. Could it not do so also with respect to the pursuit of alternative careers in law? Can there be "virtual on-campus interviews" for NGOs that do not have the money to send representatives to travel to present their work to McGill students? Are there other ways that McGill can make it easier on students who do not want to pursue traditional career paths to do so, and ways for McGill to promote an ethic of genuine public service for those who do? Can there not be some online tools that match organizations in need of legal research with students eager to undertake such research? Are those of us who as future alumni may earn a very healthy salary willing to undertake a commitment to subsidize the efforts of students or our classmates who choose less lucrative career paths in the furtherance of justice and the public interest? I hope we could take seriously some of these suggestions, not only with respect to specific programs, but with respect to how they are envisioned within the McGill community and the priority that is accorded to them.

I strongly applaud all that we have achieved and continue to achieve in this regard with our teaching and course offerings, our student groups and advocacy, our clerkships and legal clinics, through the research institutes within the faculty, and with the career services and career guides and the hard work of our professors, support staff, and administration.

This is not meant as an indictment of the very hard and accomplished work of the individuals who do their best to accommodate the needs and insecurities of the ~160 of us making our way through this institution every year, nor is it meant to discount the many professional opportunities for research and legal work that we

are afforded as a result of this ongoing work. But as I discovered was the case for many of the offerings at Public Interest Career Day, many of these opportunities are limited to summer internships, many of which are unpaid, and few of which had much promise for an articling position or long-term career. As potential and

future jurists, as an institution, and as a community, there is so much more that we can and must do, commensurate with the mission of an institution that aspires to regard itself as just, in deference to the principles that such an aspiration requires us to consider seriously, both collectively and individually.

PHOTO

Thursday March 22, 2012: a hundred or so students from the Faculty of Law took the streets with fellow students to protest the Quebec government's planned tuition hike. Une manifestation historique!



NICHOLAS
CHOINIERE

SKIT NITE SUCCESS

Mardi dernier, le 20 mars, a eu lieu le Skit Nite de la Faculté de droit de l'Université McGill. L'événement est d'abord et avant tout une activité de financement pour quatre organismes communautaires de Montréal : Chez Doris, Dans la rue, Share the Warmth et la Mission Old Brewery. Cette année nous avons amassé plus de 3 000\$ avec les billets en pré-vente. Le montant total n'a pas encore été confirmé, mais il devrait l'être dans les prochains jours.

Skit Nite est également l'occasion de découvrir les talents cachés de ceux que nous côtoyons tous les jours, de se moquer de la vie quotidienne à McGill et à la Faculté de droit en particulier et, surtout, de s'amuser. Cette année, le spectacle a réussi à allier l'humour, la musique et le monde juridique. Voilà quelque chose qu'on ne voit pas tous les jours.

Ceux qui n'étaient pas présents au Club Soda mardi dernier ont manqué un excellent spectacle. Voici quelques-uns des points saillants de la soirée.

One of the main reasons for coming to Skit Nite is to see our professors perform. We were fortunate enough to have some great faculty participation this year. Dean Daniel Jutras opened the show with a cover of Simple Plan's hit song *Jetlagged*. It was probably the first time anybody wrote a song about a Civil Code. We also had the dynamic duo of Professors Van Praagh and Jukier sing their take on the song *I'm a Believer*. One of the most original skits of the evening featured Professors Leckey and Piper, as well as Maryse Chouinard from the CDO. Their skit told the story of how the transsystemic program came to be (hint: it has to do with an epic wizarding duel). Last but not least, the evening saw special video appearances by Professors MacDonald and Janda.

Videos are another important part of Skit Nite, and the 2012 edition was no exception. The evening kicked off with a hilarious law school version of the popular *Sh*t People Say* videos. It was filled with one-liners any student could relate to, with my personal favourite being "I can't believe there are still periods in these footnotes!" A big hit of the evening was the Gelber Shore video, which was a joint effort by Krista Kais-Prial, Francesca Taddeo and Zachary Masoud. The spoof of the television series *Jersey*

Shore also featured the acting talents of Marco Garofalo, Roger Cheaib and Marc James Tacheji. The last video of the evening was *A Drunken Legal History*, created by Ryan Gallant and Adam La France. It featured an inebriated Matt Saunders as its narrator.

Despite all this, it is still live skits that are the heart of Skit Nite. Probably the biggest crowd-pleaser of the evening was the skit performed by Brodie Macrae and Meara Conway. I was blown away by their opera singing talents, as was the rest of the crowd if the standing ovation they received is any indication. The skit cleverly told the story of a young law student who is convinced to get a job at Blightman McPox Coq LLP, a big law firm – speaking of which, the Skit Nite Committee wishes to emphasize that any likeness with real events is purely a matter of coincidence. Two other great skits were "Occupy Everything" and the LSA skit, called "Coffeehouse Through the Ages". The former was a personal favourite of mine, as it was co-written by 1Ls David Groves and Sheel Chaudhuri. I am delighted to know that next year's Skit Nite is in good hands! As for the LSA skit, it was the most ambitious one of the evening, at least on a technical level. Somehow they managed to make everything look easy, from quick costume changes to disco dancing. Chris Durrant also wrote a saucy script called "Rejected Skits", which was a great review of life at our faculty in the last year.

Last but not least, there can be no Skit Nite without good



Scott Horne, Snail Hunter (one of Chris Durrant's Rejected Skits)

music. There was an extremely witty number called Foosball Wizard featuring Dan Lawlor, Marcel Daigle, Arthur Nahas and myself – OK, I'll admit that I am a bit biased –. Most impressive was the Skit Nite Band, which rocked out to four songs. This year's Band featured veterans Krista Kais-Prial and Phil Dehm, as well as new recruits Will Colish, Arthur Nahas and Lisa So.

Before ending I would like to thank everybody who made this year's Skit Nite possible. There was of course Blakes, Cassels and Graydon LLP, without

which we would not turn a profit. Most important, though, are the people. A successful show like this year's is not possible without all the actors, scriptwriters, ticket-sellers and stagehands who volunteered their time. Special thanks are due to Jeremy Boulanger-Bonnelly, who took care of all the technical details of the show, as well as the President of the organizing committee, Krista Kais-Prial, who put more time into the show than all the rest of us combined.

On se voit l'an prochain!



Brodie and Meara amazed us all with their opera singing and witty skit.



The Seventies are Stayin' Alive thanks to the LSA.



The Skit Nite Band, with guest dancer Michèle.

DEREK
ZEISMAN

With last Saturday's vote, Thomas Mulcair is now the official reigning monarch of the federal NDP, heir to that party's electoral crown.

With his victory, the New Democrats are now led by a former Liberal, while Bob Rae's Liberals are led, amusingly enough, by a former New Democrat. This is a strange twist for Canadians who fancy such political trivia.

Much has been made by certain disgruntled Dippers (i.e. those supporting other candidates) of the fact that Mr. Mulcair is a former Liberal. Or more specifically, a former provincial Liberal: he once sat as environment minister in the cabinet of Quebec Premier Jean Charest.

Personally, I think it's a bit rich to try branding Mr. Mulcair as a party flip-flopper, a disloyal ex-Liberal who hijacked the NDP. After all, how could he have ever been a provincial New Democrat in Quebec? Such a thing does not exist.

In Quebec, the traditional choice for the past 40 years has been federalist v. separatist, rather than left-wing v. right-wing. Mr. Mulcair is obviously a federalist, and in Quebec being a federalist pretty much limits one's options to a single party. His critics conveniently fail to mention this small fact.

Still, Mr. Mulcair is facing some image-related challenges. Who will he surround himself with? Who will form the nucleus, the core of his political team? Will he be a good team player himself? Will he hold his fiery temper in check?

All these questions are important to consider as we contemplate his tenure at the NDP helm. But they pale in comparison to

A HAIRY SITUATION INDEED FOR MR. MULCAIR

the hairiest issue of all: Mr. Mulcair's beard.

Yeah, I said it. I'm just that shallow.

I like the man, but c'mon. There must be some good reason why we haven't had an elected prime minister with whiskers since the much-forgotten Alexander Mackenzie ran our fair Dominion, from 1873 to 1878.

Canada's first Liberal PM was scrupulously honest and fair-minded, which made him unpopular enough with his Liberal colleagues. But A-Mack's questionable "leprechaun look" (big beard, no moustache) probably didn't win him many fans with the voters, either. He got tossed out on his ear after one term, so I'll leave it to you, dear reader, to draw your own conclusions.

Then there was grouchy old Mackenzie Bowell, a hapless Tory PM who reigned from 1894 to 1896. The unfortunately-named Mr. Bowell had a dazzling white beard more impressive than that of Almighty God Himself.

But Mr. Bowell was never an elected prime minister. Hell, he wasn't elected to anything, period – he ran the country from the floor of the freakin' Senate. And when his cabinet colleagues revolted (as Tories are wont to do – they are a revolting bunch, after all) he declared them all "a nest of traitors" and quit the PMO faster than you can say "shave and a haircut."

I can't help but wonder whether Canadians – or most people in general – aren't, at least subconsciously, kind of suspicious of a man sporting a beard. I see two reasons why this may be the case.

First, beards are pretty anti-establishment in this tightly wound, image-conscious age. What are the main bearded sub-groups these days? For starters, they are comprised entirely of men (obviously). And since it is men who are mainly responsible for the lousy state of our government, that's a good reason right off the bat to distrust beards.

Putting aside the "man factor," most people with beards nowadays are professors, students, bums, hobos, or some unsavoury combination thereof. The general public has a pretty well-ingrained sense of distrust for all these groups, not entirely without reason. (Nudge nudge, wink wink.)

Secondly, there's the "what the hell is he trying to hide?" factor. When I see a fellow with a full beard (rather than just the light scruff preferred by so many "I'm late for class, to hell with it" students), I find myself wondering whether the guy is using his beard to conceal something. A hideous scar? A terrible facial deformity? An obscene tattoo? A swastika, à la Chuck Manson? The absence of a neck, à la George Lucas?

Who is to know for sure? But the seeds of doubt are planted in the mind of the voter, and the end result, come Election Day, is generally disastrous.

Although beards, by virtue of their size and prominence, must be of paramount concern to any political hopeful with prime ministerial aspirations, moustaches are not without their own problems. History shows, as it does with beards, that voters do not look favourably upon facial hair of any kind.

Of course, every rule must have its exceptions. There was Sir Robert Borden, the guy with the walrus moustache and nerdy, parted-down-the-middle hairdo who graces our \$100 bills, and who served as Canada's Tory/Unionist prime minister from 1911 to 1920. Yes, Mr. Borden had quite the plush moustache. It went well with his Model-T Ford.

Then there was Canada's last mustachioed PM, Louis St. Laurent, who led Canada's Natural Governing Party through its 1950s heyday, till Diefenbaker came along and ruined his fun. "Uncle Louis" had a neatly-trimmed nose-tickler, though it was so white it tended to blend into his facial features – almost giving the illusion of no moustache at all. So he really doesn't count.

Since 1957, the year the voters sent Mr. St. Laurent to the political glue factory, not a single Canadian prime minister or opposition leader has been caught dead sporting a beard or moustache. Long sideburns reigned for several years in the debaucherous 1970s, but even those were soon scaled back.

Pierre Trudeau grew a god-awful beard after he flubbed the 1979 election and took off on an extended canoe trip

through the Canadian wilds. But P.E.T. was back nine months later, clean-shaven and respectable, after Joe Clark made a fatal flub of his own – and the whiskers were never seen again.

Things have been no different south of the border. The U.S. hasn't had a bearded president since William Howard Taft (also a future Chief Justice of the Supreme Court) sat in the White House from 1909 to 1913. In the 1912 election, both Taft and Teddy Roosevelt (sporting a Borden-esque walrus moustache of his own) vied unsuccessfully for the Oval Office, losing badly to the clean-shaven Woodrow Wilson. Since then, no mainstream presidential candidate has even attempted a moustache, let alone the forbidden beard.

The odds against whiskers have been similarly steep for Canada's provincial politicians. Beards have become as unfashionable as buggy whips and disco bell-bottoms. A few recent premiers, such as Quebec's Jacques Parizeau and B.C.'s Mike Harcourt and Glen Clark, have played with political fire by brandishing moustaches. But in the end, they all got burned. All were one-termers – mere footnotes in history, exceptions that helped to prove the rule.

And that rule, dear reader, is this: in politics, hair is best kept on one's head, and not on one's face. History shows that moustaches and (especially) beards are persona non grata in the field of modern electoral politics.

We can debate the reasons for this until we sprout long grey beards, but the fact remains that facial hair is a risky move in today's image-obsessed political realm. For a leader like Mr. Mulcair to break from the pack by sporting a beard, however well-kempt, is very hairy business indeed.

Then again, Mr. Mulcair's ability to grow a beard shows that, at the very least, he is not a godless killing cyborg, unlike certain sitting prime ministers who shall remain nameless. And that must surely count for something.

Derek Zeisman, like his good friend David Groves, is utterly incapable of growing a proper beard, and thus need never worry about the concerns raised above.

2L Co-Presidents

**EMILY
ELDER
& JAIME
TAX**

A "2L SPECIAL" - TOWN HALL, PIZZA AND DEAN JUTRAS NB: 2L Class members ONLY

You asked your questions, we discussed them with the Dean (Dean Daniel Jutras, aka "DJ"), and he wants to meet with you. You bring your questions, he will bring responses, and we provide the pizza.

Wednesday, March 28, 2012 - 12:30-2:00 - Room 16 (adjoining the Dean's office)

RSVP by email to Emily or Jaimie so we know how much pizza to order

Quick report of what your 2L Co-Presidents have

done this year:

- Welcome Back Beers at Benelux
- Language Conversation Groups at Thomson House
- Legal Methics End-of-Quiz Trivia with Beer and Nachos at Thomson House
- "Fact-DONE" Party at Jello Martini Lounge
- Continual advocacy and representation of class members' interests and concerns, especially:
 - to the CDO
 - to Associate Dean Ellis
 - to Dean Jutras

EMILY
ELDER
& JAIME
TAX

2L FOLLOW UP: Q&A WITH THE CDO

Earlier this month, Emily and I asked for your questions, feedback, and concerns regarding your experiences with the CDO thus far. Recently, we had the opportunity to meet with Maryse Chouinard, Director of the CDO, to get your answers (please see below). Big thanks to Maryse for taking the time to meet with us! If you have any more questions or would like clarification on any of the questions below, please feel free to contact us at jaimie.tax@mail.mcgill.ca or emily.elder@mail.mcgill.ca.

1. Is it true that we only get one appointment with the CDO per year?

In theory. During peak periods (like course aux stages and OCIs) this rule applies. However, appointments are always subject to availability, and often during non-peak periods, appointments are available and we are more than happy to see you!

2. I wasn't able to participate in the mock interviews because there were not enough slots. Is there any way of increasing the number of slots?

The Association du Barreau Canadien runs the mock interviews and the number of slots are based on the availability of their volunteers. We increased the number of available slots by running extra mock interviews for those interviewing with the Department of Justice or smaller-size firms, for a total of 54 slots. We also provided extensive interview preparation resources for all members of the Course aux stages distribution list.

3. Is there any way to ensure that there are only law-related jobs on myFuture?

Students are able to refine the job search if they wish. However, the job postings are

a CaPS service from McGill, which you all pay for, and which many students benefit from.

4. Where do I find job postings?

On myFuture. Jobs are usually posted Tuesdays and Fridays: <https://law.myfuture.mcgill.ca/students/>

5. Is there any way to create a short guide to CV/cover letter writing?

Great idea!

6. Is it possible to add more French to the Career Development Guide?

Definitely!

7. How do we know when we should be applying for articling positions?

Check out the "Organized recruitment" section of the CDO website. Dates by city/province are available: <https://home.mcgill.ca/cdo/recruitment/>. If specific dates for a particular process are not yet known for the year, you can still get a general idea from past dates, as they usually don't change drastically from year to year.

8. For summer positions generally and for non-OCI recruitment: how do we approach firms? Cold call? Email? Be direct and ask if they are hiring or meet first and then inquire?

Good question. There is a whole section devoted to this topic on pages 69 of the Career Development Guide, in the "Publications" section of the CDO website. If students feel they are in a situation where another approach might work better than what is explained in that section, they can always come and talk to us.

9. How can the faculty underline the existence of alternative careers in law- especially for those who do not want to do big law?

The CDO has set this as a priority and is seeking to network with more diverse employers. One initiative this year was the public interest career day, which proved very successful. The CDO has also been working to network with more small and medium sized firms. We are also currently looking into increasing the number of international opportunities through alumni outreach.

10. Is there anything that you would like to add?

Yes, I would like to remind students that there are a lot of career resources available for free on the CDO website. Since we cannot duplicate every piece of information on the website by sending an email, it's always a good idea to go and have a look if you think you may be interested in our services, an event or a recruitment process.

J'aimerais aussi dire que le CDP est un espace de dialogue, et que nous sommes ouvertes à vos idées, projets, commentaires et initiatives. Aussi, votre rétroaction sur vos expériences en entrevue servent à améliorer nos ressources, et nous sommes toujours ravies quand vous prenez le temps de la formuler et que vous nous permettez de l'utiliser. Bref, sous réserve de la confidentialité, beaucoup d'information importante circule dans les deux sens au CDP, et c'est excellent ainsi. D'ailleurs c'est aussi nécessaire, puisque nous ne sommes que deux pour 600 étudiants et des milliers d'employeurs juridiques. Une autre chose très utile que les étudiants peuvent faire pour nous est

LEGAL
INFORMATION
CLINIC AT
MCGILL

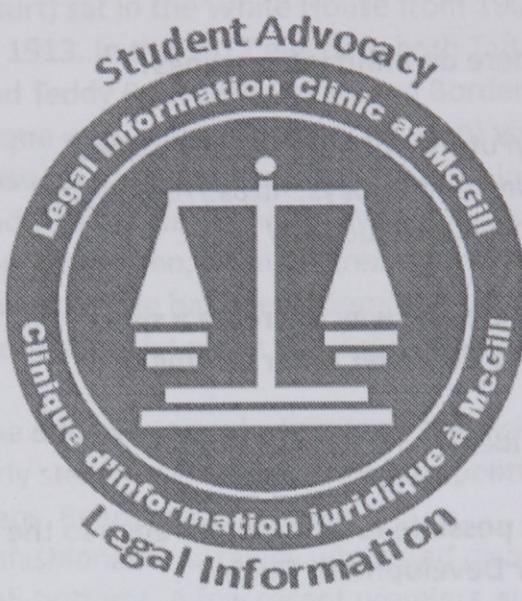
Spending the summer in Montreal? Hoping to put your legal skills to practical use? La Clinique d'information juridique à McGill est à la recherche de bénévoles!

The Legal Information Clinic at McGill is a non-profit, student-run, bilingual and free legal information service. Notre mandat est de fournir de l'information juridique et d'offrir des références à la communauté de McGill ainsi qu'aux populations marginalisées du Québec.

We are seeking volunteers who have completed their first year of law (and beyond) by the end of this semester. The commitment will be 2-3 hours per week and training will be provided.

En faisant du bénévolat à la Clinique, vous aurez une excellente occasion de mettre en pratique ce que vous avez appris dans vos cours cette année. Not only will you get to work directly with clients who have real legal questions, you will also have the op-

VOLUNTEER AT THE LEGAL INFORMATION CLINIC AT MCGILL



portunity to develop your legal research skills and explore areas of the law that are new to you.

Volunteering at the Legal Information Clinic at McGill can also serve as great preparation for those interested in the Student Advocacy Program, a very proud part of the Legal Information Clinic at McGill. Ce service offre aux étudiants impliqués dans des processus disciplinaires, de grief ou d'appel, des conseils gratuits et confidentiels ainsi qu'une représentation par un représentant étudiant. L'appel aux candidatures pour les postes de représentants-étudiants adjoints se fait pendant l'automne.

Pour plus de renseignements, pour rencontrer les directeurs et directrices, et pour vous ajouter à la liste de distribution venez nous rejoindre à **COFFEEHOUSE le 29 mars!** You can also e-mail hr.mlic@mail.mcgill.ca to be added to the mailing list, whether you are interested in volunteering this summer or in the fall.

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

CDO

de remplir le sondage du CDP quand ils obtiennent leur diplôme (voir site du CDP). C'est la façon la plus efficace que nous ayons de voir combien de finissants travaillent dans tel ou tel secteur et de vous fournir ces stats et ces personnes-ressources que vous appréciez tant!

A word on signing up for events on myFuture: the point of asking you to do this is not to police who is there or not, or to start a file on your CDO-event habits! Except for schedule-type events (ex. CBA mock interviews), I don't care if your

plans change and you need to cancel your attendance (I'm sorry that myFuture's automatic message makes it sound like a big deal when you do – I have no control over it). The point is to see how many intend to show up (panellists' always want to know this), to confirm that we have a big enough room, to be able to inform all participants of a room change, time change or cancellation in a timely manner, to keep accurate stats on attendance for budgetary considerations, and to relay important follow-up information and resources to students. In the case of

distribution lists for recruitment processes, it's even more crucial: most of the info will not be repeated on the website, and will not be sent to CDO News. So please sign up when we ask you to do so – it takes 30 seconds.

Thank you so much!

END-OF-YEAR REPORTS

These reports appear in the *Quid* per By-Law 1 of the LSA Constitution.

CATHERINE COURSOL

Pour commencer, je dois vous dire que j'ai adoré mon année en tant que présidente et que ça termine très bien mes quatre années à McGill. Vous trouverez ici un court résumé de mon expérience et de ce que j'ai réalisé au courant de l'année.

D'abord, mon rôle principal était d'assister les vice-présidents dans leurs différents projets et au meilleur de mes capacités j'ai tenté d'être la plus présente possible pour les aider dans leurs réalisations. Je tiens d'abord à les remercier et les féliciter pour leur excellent travail. Après quatre ans à la Faculté, je peux dire sans gêne que c'est l'asso qui a eu l'équipe la plus unie. Tous ont travaillé très fort et je vous encourage fortement à les remercier pour le temps qui ont passé pour veiller à vos intérêts et s'assurer que votre passage à la Faculté ne se résume pas qu'à vos études et à la bibliothèque.

My first goal as president was to meet with all members of the Executive in early May to get to know them better and foster team spirit. Unsurprisingly, this was not a difficult task and we quickly became close as we planned next year's big projects and helped out with Orientation. Moreover, in the summer, I met all Presidents from the Student Society of McGill University to discuss joint projects and issues. This allowed the LSA to build better relations with lower campus throughout the year. Although we are different in several respects, these meetings were very beneficial in allowing me to understand how the others associations function and also allowed me to better understand the Administration of McGill. Some of the is-

sues we discussed at the Presidents' meetings included the opt-in campaign and addressing demands to improve the portfolio of the Provost Student Life & Learning. In the summer, I also met with the Presidents of UdeM and UQAM to discuss about our projects and sponsorships.

Ensuite à l'automne, après la folie d'Orientation, nous sommes parties tous les execs ensemble en retreat pour faire le point et mettre sur pied nos différents objectifs de l'année. Ce fut une très belle expérience et cela nous a permis entre autre de renforcer nos liens, mais aussi de concrétiser comment nous allions réaliser nos projets. Ce fut aussi un moment où nous avons fait des mises en situation et que nous avons mis sur papier ce que c'était pour nous l'AED. En regardant les documents de cette fin de semaine, je peux dire qu'en cette fin d'année tout le monde a bien réussi ses objectifs. Bien sûr, cela n'a pas toujours été parfait, mais en général ce fût des succès et tous ont travaillé fort et n'ont jamais abandonné.

Suite à la manifestation du 10 novembre, j'ai commencé à avoir des rencontres avec l'administration de McGill ce qui s'est avéré assez nouveau. Nous avons eu des rencontres pour savoir comment les étudiants pouvaient se sentir plus impliqués dans les décisions administratives, comment améliorer la sécurité, pour avoir nos commentaires sur le rapport de notre doyen et sur le Protocole de sécurité. Honnêtement, je peux dire qu'il y a eu une grande amélioration du côté de la communication entre étudiants et administration ce qui aura été un point positif

des événements du 10 novembre, mais aussi de l'occupation du James Building.

En tant que présidente, j'ai aussi rencontré environ deux fois par mois notre doyen afin de discuter de toute sorte de questions que les étudiants avaient. Nous avons convenu que nous installerons bientôt dans la Faculté des télévisions afin de faciliter l'échange d'informations et de faciliter la vie des étudiants pour savoir ce qui se passe à chaque jour dans la Faculté. De plus, nous avons discuté, par exemple, de comment améliorer l'espace de la bibliothèque et de nouvelles mesures sont présentement discutées pour avoir plus d'espaces durant la période d'examen en avril.

Mon objectif cette année était de rendre l'AED plus accessible et que chaque étudiant nous connaisse et n'hésite pas à venir nous voir. J'ai donc décidé de mettre sur pied les « Breakfast with the Execs ». Nous ne savions pas au début si cela allait fonctionner, mais nous avons été très heureux des résultats. Les étudiants qui venaient nous voir étaient très diversifiés et nous avons eu d'excellentes discussions avec plusieurs d'entre vous. C'est définitivement une activité que j'encourage mon successeur à continuer et en plus, ça faisait chaud au cœur de vous voir de très bonne humeur avant vos cours matinales :)

On a sadder note, we lost a recent graduate student this fall. To honour her memory, the LSA has created the Alexandra Dodger Award for Social Justice. It will be awarded for the first time this year to a student who has contributed to the Fac-

LSA PRESIDENT

ulty community through commitment and leadership in the fields of law and social justice within and outside the faculty. Presently, friends of Alexandra are planning to raise sixty thousand dollars in order to permanently establish the Alexandra Dodger Memorial Award. Please help them make this a reality. To

learn more, or to make a donation, please visit:

<http://alexdodgerbursary.webstarts.com/index.html>

Enfin, un merci tout spécial aux membres du LSA Council qui ont aussi fait un excellent travail en participant à toutes les deux semaines à des rencontres et en ap-

portant des points de vue sur des sujets importants au sein de la Faculté. Il ne faut surtout pas les oublier! Je vous laisse donc avec cette photo qui vous rappellera peut-être quelque chose!

Bon succès dans vos examens et dans vos projets futurs! Merci à tous pour votre implication cette année!



**ÉLOÏSE
GAGNÉ**

Writing this final report makes me LS-sAd. My time LS-yAying is now over. Booh. But honestly, LS-yAy is the most adequate way to describe my year as VP-PR. Being VP-PR is stressful at times (or most of the time), but also very fun. This year, my personal goals as VP-PR were the following: get new sponsors and raise more money for

the LSA by creating new opportunities and work closely with the CDO to make sure that our activities did not overlap. Moreover, I tried to think of ways for Public Interest organizations to benefit from more visibility at the Faculty.

Les mois de mai et juin ont été consacrés à l'amélioration du plan de commandites

de l'année passée. À celui-ci, j'ai ajouté toutes les idées que l'Exécutif souhaitait voir en place. Le kiosque de crème glacée Bilboquet commandité par BLG ainsi que les tacos gratuits de Gowlings en sont des exemples. J'ai également eu à m'assurer que certaines activités soient perpétrées, comme le Law Partner Lunch payé par

AÉD VP RELATIONS PUBLIQUES

Stikeman Elliott et la commandite du cocktail du Welcome Ball par McCarthy Tétrault. C'est également à ce moment que la commandite des Law Games a été confirmée.

Dans la même optique, j'ai essayé d'encourager de plus petits cabinets à opter pour des activités moins dispendieuses, mais qui leur offriraient tout de même une belle visibilité. En effet, j'ai proposé que des coffeehouses commandités soient organisés par deux ou trois plus petits cabinets ou organisations publiques. J'ai également créé un système similaire pour les conférences. Malheureusement, personne ne s'est montré très réceptif cette année mais je suis certaine que c'est quelque chose que mon successeur devrait considérer!

Vers la fin juin, j'ai envoyé mon plan de commandites aux cabinets et autres institutions. Dès lors, j'ai eu à monter et gérer le calendrier des activités commanditées de l'année (activités de l'Orientation, coffeehouses, conférences...). Durant le reste de l'été, j'ai également eu à trouver des commanditaires pour le site Internet de l'AÉD, l'Agenda étudiant, le bottin, le Quid Novi... Après une centaine de courriels envoyés et une facture de téléphone salée, j'étais alors prête en août à mettre tous les événements planifiés en œuvre.

Une fois les cours commencés, je me suis assurée que toutes les activités commanditées de l'Orientation se déroulent sans anicroches. Plus tard en septembre, il y a aussi eu le premier coffeehouse commandité par Baker McKenzie (un cabinet de Toronto) ainsi qu'une conférence de McCarthy sur l'heure du midi, illustrant le quotidien des étudiants dans un grand cabinet. Cinq autres conférences ont aussi eu lieu cette année, dont une organisée par Lenczner Slaght, un nouveau commanditaire que j'ai «recruté» cette année. Également, bien que les fusions et acquisitions soit le sujet qui vous passionne tous le plus, je me suis assurée que les thèmes présentés puissent aussi vous donner des atouts dans la vie de tous les jours. Par exemple, une conférence porta cette année sur les moyens de faire une bonne im-

pression. Une autre, donnée par André Bacchus de chez Heenan Blaikie Toronto exposa différentes carrières du droit possibles pour les étudiants gradués.

The Sponsored Coffeehouse Carnival started off on October 27th. Overall, nine coffeehouses were sponsored this year, which means that I organised two more than in past years. The CDO and myself also worked hard in order to put together a Public Interest «sponsored» Coffeehouse. The idea was well received but we both lacked the time and resources to organize it properly. We are both hoping that this project will be possible next year. Also, the famous Lavery Hockey game was held early in January. As usual, it was well-attended.

On a more miscellaneous note, four iPod raffles happened this year. I built a new sponsorship with another financial institution and coordinated the sponsorship of Law School of Rock and Skit Nite (sponsored by Blakes) and the Fashion Show (Gowlings). This year, an etiquette workshop was also organized through the LSA Exec and Stikeman Elliott. I got the reparation of our sound system sponsored by Lavery and they even offered to reupholster some sofas in the student lounge! Finally, I organized the lunch for the ABC's mock interviews, which was a joint CDO / LSA event. There are probably a few things that I am forgetting but I tried to give you a very condensed and edited version of what I did this summer and this year. You know... when I joke that I had no life... well, I was not joking.

Officiellement, toutes les activités commanditées sont maintenant terminées. Je suis présentement en train d'envoyer les factures pour l'année. Comme l'a dit Mike : «it feels like Christmas.» Cependant, je ne peux m'empêcher de poser un regard nostalgique sur l'année qui vient de passer. La réalisation de tous ces événements ne se seraient jamais fait sans le support et l'aide de l'AÉD. Vraiment, nous étions une équipe unie et jamais je n'aurais pu y arriver sans eux. Chacun a toujours été de bon conseil et cette atmosphère m'a sincèrement motivée à

faire de mon mieux afin de développer de nouvelles opportunités et d'obtenir d'autres commandites.

Également, j'aimerais dire que j'ai rencontré à toutes les deux semaines Maryse Chouinard, directrice du Centre de développement professionnel. Un sincère effort a été mis des deux côtés afin que les activités du CDP soient vraiment objectives et que les étudiants soient éveillés à différents métiers. Comme une certaine polémique réside toujours à ce sujet, j'aimerais clarifier un point important dans mon rapport. Dans l'organisation d'activités, lorsqu'il s'agissait de commandites privées, les activités ont été organisées à travers l'AÉD. Comme vous pouvez le voir, tout ce qui est Coffeehouse, conférences données par un seul cabinet, iPod, free booze... c'était moi. Lorsqu'il s'agissait plutôt de panels, journées carrières, speed-meets, etc., c'était Maryse. C'est une distinction importante sur laquelle nous avons toutes deux travaillé cette année afin de coordonner nos événements et de clairement distinguer nos mandats. Maryse s'est donc toujours assurée que vous ne soyez pas directement dirigés vers un cabinet spécifique mais que vous puissiez avoir une vision plus objective de ce qui est possible.

Finalement, un merci spécial au SAO d'avoir étampé au moins 200 affiches annonçant les événements commandités, mais aussi d'avoir été très patients avec mes demandes pressantes et à la dernière minute de réservation de salle. Merci encore aux secrétaires de m'avoir aidé à différents égards, que ce soit en recevant les paquets qui m'étaient destinés ou en m'assistant dans l'emprunt de tables et de chaises. J'aimerais aussi remercier les concierges de leur précieuse aide à chaque événement.

Now, I would really love your feedback on the year that has passed. If you have any ideas, contacts, comments... please email me (vp-pr.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca) and I will forward the information to my successor! It was a great pleasure working for you this year!

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CAROLINE-
ARIANE
BERNIER

LSA VP ADMINISTRATION

My main goals this year were (1) creating the greatest faculty academic agenda, (2) turning the website into a point of reference for the student body, (3) increasing the overall effectiveness of the Law Students' Association Executive through a good administration.

L'agenda de l'AÉD, rempli de phrases de dragues afin d'enjoliver vos semaines, contenant plus d'espace pour écrire et disponible dans un format plus pratique (youpi pour les reliures spiralées), a, je crois, atteint un succès modeste. En gardant en tête que la plupart d'entre nous utilisons maintenant nos téléphones intelligents ou nos ordinateurs portables pour organiser nos journées, plus de 200 agendas ont été ramassés par les étudiants au début de l'année. De plus, environ 50 agendas ont été distribués aux membres du SAO, CDO et du Bureau du Doyen et nous avons reçu beaucoup de commentaires positifs à propos de l'outil de travail. Ma suggestion pour l'année prochaine? Commander un maximum de 300 agendas et en imprimer davantage plus tard si besoin est!

As for the website, although the layout remained virtually the same, it was updated on a much more frequent basis this year (about every two days), and most major club activities were featured on it. Online payment was made available for the purchase of LSA sweatpants/sweatshirts, registration for the Malpractice Cup and the purchase of Grad Ball Tickets (still not over!!!). Furthermore, the LSA Calendar and the front page of the LSA website featured LSA, Clubs and CDO events so that advertisement

for the biggest faculty events would be concentrated on a single page. Finally, the minutes of LSA Council were made available quickly (although I'm not sure how many of you even knew they were made public) and special pages under the "Events" section were set up for the major activities: Orientation, Elections, Malpractice Cup, Ski Trip, Grad Ball Survey, Grad Ball tickets, etc.

Furthermore, better administration of the LSA was achieved through an overall increase in communications between the LSA and the student body, particularly through the website and the listservs. Indeed, the bi-weekly listservs now have a short table of content (*scoop: same format as the Notice Board, as I was your Noticee for a year, spamming you four times a week over the fall semester!!!*), colour, and respect McGill's bilingualism. The LSA Council Minutes also have colour (!) and are much more detailed than they've ever been – practically everything that comes out of your elected VPs, Class Presidents or Members at Large's mouths are faithfully transcribed.

En somme, je suis fière de ce que j'ai accompli en tant que *Vice-Présidente Administration* cette année (la plupart de mes tâches n'étant pas décrites dans ce rapport puisque la majorité d'entre vous n'êtes probablement pas intéressés par les détails de mes tâches administratives) mais, surtout, par ce que nous avons accompli en équipe, Catherine, Éloïse, Georgia, Graham, Michèle, Faiz, Ian, Mike et moi-même. Comme Graham l'a si bien exprimé dans son rapport: "*I think that this year's LSA succeeded at facilitating a stronger and more open community*".

ADAM
LA FRANCE
& LAURIE
BIRBILAS

3L CO-PRESIDENTS

Dear 3Ls,

It has been an honour to serve as your Co-Presidents this past year. Sachant que vous êtes probablement trop occupés avec votre préparation pour les examens à venir pour lire un long rapport détaillé, nous vous le proposons dans la forme d'un haïku:

Third year went by so fast
The après-ski party was a blast
A Plus

Adam & Laurie

MICHAEL MULRONEY

Serving as your VP-Finance for the past year has been a privilege. While I will miss working with Caro, Ian, Fuzzy, Élo, Catherine, Georgia, Michou, and Graham, I look forward to working with the incoming executive. Below are some of the major projects that I worked on this past year and how I plan to approach them next year.

Audits

L'AÉD a complété des audits pour les années FY2010 et FY2011. Ces audits sont exigés par notre Protocole d'accord avec l'université pour recevoir nos frais. Mon objectif est d'avoir complété l'audit pour FY2012 avant la fin de l'été afin que ça va m'aider à créer le budget pour FY2013.

Budgets

This year, the LSA budgeted for a small deficit. We did this because conservatively estimated revenues and expenses have tended in consistent large surpluses. This isn't necessarily a good thing. Substantial surpluses mean that students are contributing more to the LSA than they are getting out of it. If the LSA manages to finish the FY2012 audit before the end of the summer, I hope to see how well this budget strategy worked before I finalize the FY2013 budget and present it in October.

Online Payments

Pour la première fois cette année, les étudiants pouvaient s'enregistrer pour l'orientation de la première année et pouvaient

AÉD VP FINANCES

commander leurs chemises sur notre site internet. Sous le système actuel, l'administration de l'université traite les paiements. Mon objectif est de remplacer ce système par un système de PayPal afin que l'AÉD aura plus de contrôle sur le système et aura de meilleurs rapports.

GST & QST (TPS & TVQ)

The LSA began charging GST & QST (VATs) for some of its activities this year. This change allows the LSA to add GST & QST on its invoices to law firms, which costs the firms nothing since they can simply deduct this from the taxes on their legal fees. Likewise, the LSA can also deduct the GST & QST on some of its expenses and pocket some of the extra revenue. While sales to students (orientation registration, event tickets, clothing etc.) will now include GST & QST, the change will not actually increase total prices since the cost of these sales are mostly made up of goods and services that include tax. Essentially, the LSA makes more money at the expense of Revenue Canada and Revenue Quebec, but it will require the LSA to itemize its revenues and expenses into taxable and non-taxable activities. Please let me know if you have any questions about this.

Merci de m'avoir donné l'opportunité de vous servir en tant que votre VP Finances. J'ai vraiment hâte de vous servir pour encore une année.

IAN CLARKE

What a crazy year! The portfolio was very challenging at times, but it was an incredible learning experience for me. It will be very difficult to sum up what happened in 1000 words. Let's begin with a brief review of my campaign promises.

1. Gaining access to SSMU club funding and resources

The SSMU and the LSA had a memoran-

LSA VP EXTERNAL

dum of agreement to govern the relationship between LSA clubs and the SSMU. Unfortunately, the agreement had long since been forgotten and had expired. I initially came to an informal agreement with the SSMU VP that LSA Clubs could gain access to lockers/room rentals/club funding through the use of the LSA name. Negotiations are closing up that will see

the SSMU commit more resources to LSA club funding.

2. Passing along information from external bodies

I have poured through the SSMU weekly listservs, and forwarded all tangentially related information to the key stakeholders or through the LSA weekly listservs. SSMU events, such as General Assemblies

and Consultation Forums, also saw record law student attendance. We also had our first-ever Faculty Olympics team.

3. Articulated stance on tuition increases

For the first time in recent memory, the LSA took a political stance when the LSA AGM passed a tuition policy resolution. This was the result of several town halls, hosted by both the SSMU and the LSA. From that policy, the LSA published an opinion-editorial in the *Montreal Gazette*. We were also a driving force for CADED, the Civil Law Schools Student Associations, as we were a role model in terms of internal consultation and external outreach. A recent article was published in *Le Devoir* by CADED with the LSA endorsing it.

One of the biggest challenges that I faced this year was student consultation and the relationship between elected representatives and their constituents. This was most apparent during the MUNACA strike where the LSA Executive and LSA Council thought it was best to not choose a side. I can freely admit that I was anxious/terrified in engaging in dialogue on the issue. Unfortunately, this created a kettle effect whereby stifling dialogue caused the situation to boil over at a General Assembly. This was not the way to engage with peers, and I apologize. But it was also a learning experience.

The much more constructive and effective approach was the one used during the Tuition and Bill C-10 discussions, and it is a process that I would like to see employed in future situations. Hosting town halls, general assemblies and other consultative forums really helped promote a healthy dialogue, and I feel it brought out a whole new set of LSA members that had previously felt disenfranchised with its stu-

dents association. By allowing individuals to be heard and listened to, it promoted an environment that empowered students to take the initiative and buy-in. The exchange of ideas was apparent throughout the hallways, in the Quid, and in our record referendum turnouts, and it dispelled the notion that law students are separate from the rest of the world.

Another benefit from this discussion is that we are moving closer towards defining the role of the LSA and the stated purpose in our constitution. From never having taken a political stance before, to voting on the MUNACA strike, tuition policy and Bill C-10, we have opened the doors towards a restrained sense of political activism. However, it is difficult to ascertain a bright line rule from our referendum results as to when the LSA will speak out on a political issue. It could be said that the Bill C-10 issue was the perfect storm for LSA political activism due to its direct impact on the legal system and its widely-acknowledged inadequacies. This ambiguity will need to be addressed in the future.

There are positives and negatives if the LSA does decide to wade into more political waters. The positives could be increased student engagement and awareness of socio-political issues, and also more student involvement in the LSA as it branches out from its traditional apolitical role. The inherent problem with political activism is that the issues tend to be very divisive, and must be handled with a soft touch (see my first MUNACA email as a poor choice of wording). There is also the risk of spewing out hundreds of policy without any concrete action. This concern is very real where there is only one VP-External. Ways to mitigate this fear is to tap

into this new area of student energy and passion, and delegate power to committees of interested individuals.

In SSMU-related news, we played a much more influential role. In our strategy to promote Bill C-10 awareness, the LSA sponsored a Bill C-10 resolution at the SSMU Winter Semester General Assembly. After it unanimously passed at SSMU Council, the SSMU began a media campaign in tandem with ours. I also initiated a referendum question that will ask students to decide whether General Assembly resolutions should be ratified with an online vote. This reflects the concerns that, as law students, we are all rather busy and sometimes cannot find time to attend the SSMU General Assembly, and that General Assemblies with such poor attendance cannot be representative of the student body. The proposed new approach will mimic the strategy employed by the LSA this year by hosting a town hall/ general assembly to initially determine if the issue at hand is of pressing concern, and then allow the entire student body vote on the issue.

There were many, many, many other things that I have created and developed this year, but I have simply no space to write all of it. Please have a chat with me as I don't want this institutional memory to go to waste! If I could emphasize anything for the next VP-External, it is to clarify the LSA' stated purpose in the Constitution and to create a committee-like system to help spread the work and to keep people engaged.

Oh, and the sweatshirts and sweatpants are fine.

Prior to handing my LSA office key to Alexandra Belley-McKinnon, your VP-Academic for 2012-2013, I would like to give you an idea of what I have focused on this year as one of your LSA representatives. I mention the key, because to me it truly was a magical moment. I felt so powerful, in a good way. I promise.

In April of 2011, the LSA received a clear mandate to advocate in favour of changing the name of our common law degree from an LL.B. to a J.D. 212 students voted in favour, while 87 were opposed and 11 spoiled their ballots. Durant l'année scolaire 2010-2011, mon prédecesseur avait créé un comité J.D./LL.B. qui a rédigé un rapport neutre destiné à informer le corps étudiant en présentant les arguments pour et contre ce changement. Cette année, les étudiants de ce comité, soit Scott Horne, Derek Zeisman et Martin Bergeron ont rédigé un plaidoyer en faveur de l'adoption du J.D., qui comprend des réponses aux objections et aux mythes souvent associés à ce débat, l'ensemble des arguments appuyant le changement, certains témoignages d'étudiants ayant subi un préjudice en raison de la désignation LL.B., ainsi qu'un historique de l'évolution de ce débat au sein de la faculté depuis 2009. In addition to this student committee, an advisory group was instituted by Dean Jutras, which was composed of students as well as faculty members. In order to provide guidance and advice on the issues surrounding the degree name change, this advisory group gathered input from the McGill Law community and ensured open communication with the LSA and the student body. This year, my goal with respect to the J.D./LL.B. was to make sure your voice, as it was expressed in April of 2011, was heard and brought to the Faculty Council. I am very happy to reassure you that there have been productive and helpful ongoing dis-

cussions with faculty about this issue, and constructive feedback has been exchanged between the LSA membership and the Faculty. Having also recognized the need to gather and disseminate further information on the J.D., the J.D. student committee has made the reports of 2009, 2011 and 2012 available to you this year (I swear, check the listserv). Also, a Town Hall was held on February 1st, where students were invited to ask their questions and express their concerns, which were subsequently communicated to the Faculty. Students mainly asked about the effect of the change on cégep students, the proposition of a cosmetic change v. substantive change to curriculum (what a substantive change would entail), the procedural steps required to make the change, as well as whether the LL.B. could potentially discourage prospective students to apply. Just last week, a second referendum was held, where 287 of you voted yes, 74 voted no, and 49 expressed no opinion. The purpose of this referendum was to reiterate student support for the change. This mandate is still remarkably strong, and rather consistent with last year's numbers, but with a higher voter turnout than the referendum of April 2011.

Outre la question J.D./LL.B., l'un de mes objectifs en tant que Vp-Académique de cette année, était d'inciter les étudiants à tisser des liens plus rapprochés et à favoriser l'entraide et la collaboration entre eux. En effet, au mois de décembre a eu lieu un deuxième Law Partners Lunch, où les mentors des années supérieures furent encouragés à donner un dernier coup de main aux étudiants de première année avant la période des examens. Je crois sincèrement que la raison d'être de ce jumelage ne devrait pas se réduire à une simple rencontre durant la semaine d'orientation au mois

d'août. Ainsi, j'encourage les futurs law partners à préserver un certain contact avec leur étudiant de première année en demeurant disponible pour répondre à ses questions et à ses inquiétudes tout au long de l'année scolaire. Enfin, le jumelage peut se faire à n'importe quel moment durant l'année scolaire, pas nécessairement uniquement au mois d'août.

Toujours en lien avec mon objectif précédent, j'ai mis sur pied un programme de tutorat pour les étudiants de première année. Last semester, a total of ten tutors had drop-in hours during which students could ask their questions in contracts, constitutional law, torts, or civil law property. This semester, in order to have a more effective system, each student will be matched directly with one upper year tutor. I invite all first year students preparing for final exams to get in touch with me if they feel tutoring could be helpful for April exams. Since this is the first year we attempt this project, your suggestions and comments on how the program can be set up for next year are welcomed and appreciated.

In addition, as part of my portfolio, I was a member of the Curriculum Committee. As most of you are probably aware, the Federation of Law Societies of Canada's Common Law Degree Implementation Committee developed a proposal to implement a uniform national requirement for entry to law society admission programs in Canadian common law jurisdictions. The Curriculum Committee studied our program and made recommendations for complying with the national requirements. Thus, a basket of administrative law courses from which students must choose a mandatory course was created, and the business associations course was made obligatory.

Enfin, au mois de janvier, un comité sur les langues officielles a été créé pour réviser la politique linguistique de 1992 qui ne reflète plus adéquatement les réalités présentes à la faculté. En plus de procéder à une reconfiguration et à une nouvelle rédaction de la politique, le comité entreprend l'écriture d'un rapport qui fera la mise au point en étudiant la place du français à la faculté et en justifiant les amendements faits à la politique de 1992. Ce projet devrait être complété d'ici le mois de septembre 2012.

Since it is impossible to exhaustively summarize everything that has been done this year in a couple of paragraphs, I strongly encourage students to get in touch with me if they have any questions. Pour conclure, je souhaite d'abord et avant tout remercier toute l'équipe de l'AÉD pour leur aide précieuse tout au long de l'année scolaire. Un gros merci également aux étudiants membres du comité J.D. pour leurs efforts et tout le temps qu'ils ont dévoué à ce projet, ainsi qu'aux tuteurs

sans lesquels le programme de tutorat ne se serait jamais concrétisé. Before handing over this special key (and the comfy couches that come with it), I would also like to thank students for giving me the opportunity to live this incredible experience. Even though my mandate is coming to an end, I am still available to respond to your questions and concerns regarding all matters of academic nature. Bonne fin de session!



**IAN
CLARKE**

Serving as law senator was a very interesting experience as it gave me a more inside-view into the internal operations of McGill University. I would begin by saying that Senate Student Caucus, under the leadership of SSMU VP-University Affairs Emily Clare, was the most remarkable student body I have ever sat on. The wide-ranging set of talents and expertise, the time and energy invested into McGill Senate and consultative bodies, and the restraint, respect and understanding shown by each student senator was simply incredible.

Two particular events stand out as attestations of the pivotal role Senate Student Caucus played last year. The motion concerning Academic Amnesty, in lieu of the MUNACA labour dispute, proved the caucus' ability to strategically discuss the place of dissent on campus. Knowing prior to the meeting that this will be a cause for controversy amongst other senators, the members of the committee in due diligence researched other cases related to Academic Amnesty and collaboratively authored an air tight motion.

The senate meeting after the events of

LAW SENATOR

November 10th, 2011, also proves the ability for the SSMU Senate Caucus to mobilize under time constraints. The conversations concerning this particular issue was relentlessly in a state of follow-up and the caucus did its best to hold people accountable for the safety and well-being of its constituency's living and learning space. Whether it was through consultation forums, university processes, or collaborative means, the committee enforced the necessity of the reparative nature of the university's actions concerning November 10th.

Here are some of the projects SSMU senators have worked on throughout the year:

- Consultation Fairs: These were events with multiple round-table discussions focusing on different issues concerning students. The goal was to bring together students and administrators to foster open dialogue. The second Consultation Fair featured key issues following the events of November 10th
- A completely new website for the SSMU Senators blog, Senators' Corner, was created as a way for the committee members to better connect with students, and for them to understand the

caucus' exact role on campus

- The second annual Forum on Undergraduate was held to discuss key issues facing Undergraduates at McGill such as study space on campus, degree flexibility, and career services availability
- A review committee of McGill's Green Book on Student Rights & Responsibilities as current processes place undue stress and anxiety on students

I would finish by saying that I was ecstatic to see the Law Senator position contested this year, and that there was record student participation in the election. Law students heavily influenced Senate Student Caucus this year due to all your enthused responses to our consultative outreach initiatives, and I thank you for this!

My one recommendation to the new Law Senator is to maintain strong ties with LSA Council in order to relay information back and forth. Senate Student Caucus is a great place to learn about new and exciting initiatives being implemented throughout campus, which could be successfully transplanted into the Law Faculty.

LSA VP CLUBS & SERVICES

Summary

At the beginning of the semester, I set three broad benchmarks for the VP Clubs & Services portfolio: firstly, to significantly increase funding for clubs; secondly, to simplify the clubs funding application process; and finally, to provide extensive logistical support to clubs. I am happy to report that the LSA was able to – by and large – meet and exceed its goals with respect to student clubs and groups at the Faculty. Moreover, from speaking with club leaders, I have come to the conclusion that there is general satisfaction with the timeliness and efficacy of the support provided by the LSA to clubs.

Clubs : les chiffres

Tandis que le nombre des clubs inscrit auprès de l'AÉD à peu près le même cette année par comparaison à l'année passée, le financement destiné aux clubs a été augmenté de quarante pour cent. Par conséquence, tous les clubs ayant soumis leurs demandes dans les délais prescrits ont reçu des fonds. Certes, quelques dépenses ont été rejetées, mais ceci n'est arrivé que rarement. L'effet de l'augmentation du financement est palpable, notamment en observant le nombre d'événements organisés par les clubs cette année. Quelques événements et initiatives sont soulignés vers la fin de ce rapport.

Pendant la session d'autonome, l'AÉD a reçu et a approuvé vingt-neuf demandes de financement. Plus de deux-tiers des fonds ont été alloués. Le reste a été déboursé pendant la session d'hiver, où quatorze demandes de financement ont été soumises. Étant donné que parfois les clubs ne demandent pas le remboursement, j'ai assuré d'allouer des montants excédant mon budget des clubs.

Access to funding

One of the main concerns I had coming in as the Vice-President Clubs & Services was to ensure that LSA funding would be easily accessible – that is, that there wouldn't be bureaucratic hurdles in receiving funds. That concern had to be balanced against preventing a misappropriation of funds, however unlikely that may be. The clubs and DDF funding forms were shortened, simply asking for a description of the events planned for and a basic budget for each event. On that basis, allocation decisions detailed the restriction on spending per general item. For example, simple categories of "publicity" or "food" were employed to allow clubs for some amount of discretion, but restricting reimbursements for inappropriate spending. And whenever a club asked to change their specific allocation during each semester,

allowances were made to accommodate such requests.

Les Coffeehouses

Plusieurs clubs ont soumis des demandes de coffeehouse pour un nombre limité de dates. Afin d'assurer que chaque club-demandeur puisse organiser un coffeehouse, j'ai du faire des groupes de deux pour la majorité des coffeehouses. Pour certains clubs les coffeehouses servent de moyen de collecte de fonds supplémentaire ; le but principal pour la plupart des clubs reste de se faire connaître à travers la Faculté.

Logistical support

Besides funding and coffeehouses, the LSA was able to support club activities by providing logistical support. For example, the Vice-President Internal (On-going Event), Michèle, arranged for various alcohol permits throughout the year so that clubs could serve alcohol at events. A range of resources – from our sound system and mic, to the LSA fridge – were also made available to clubs. McGill Special Events was especially cooperative in responding to order requests.

Événements

Je souligne ici quelques événements et initiatives des clubs de la Faculté pour vous montrer la variété des groupes qui ont reçu le soutien de l'AÉD cette année :

- Le deuxième tournoi de foosball de McGill International Foosball Association, qui a rassemblé plus de \$1 000 pour l'organisme de bienfaisance « Right To Play ».
- Un voyage organisé par le Caucus des femmes à la Cour Suprême du Canada à Ottawa.
- Une conférence sur le Plan Nord, organisé par l'association étudiante pour les droits des peuples autochtones, Droit Environnemental McGill et La Revue internationale de droit et politique du développement durable de McGill.
- La Revue de droit de McGill a reçu des fonds pour organiser un débat constitutionnel sur la place du Québec et la conférence annuelle de la Revue donnée par Mary Dawson, rédactrice de la Charte.
- De plus, plusieurs projets du Human Rights Working Group ont été bénéficiaires de notre soutien, y compris le Speed Meet en droit de l'immigration, une table ronde sur le « Ethical Engagement » et Kony 2012, de même qu'une conférence sur les médias sociaux et le printemps arabe.



Golden Key & the East Asian Studies Students' Association present

SEXUAL SLAVERY & THE ASIAN HOLOCAUST

**A SEMINAR ON THE COMFORT
WOMEN ISSUE IN EAST ASIA**

Featuring Professors Brian Bergstrom & Adrienne Hurley

❖ *Admission by donation* ❖ *Silent auction* ❖
All proceeds go to Shimtuh (A shelter for sexual slavery victims in Korea)

Friday, March 30, 2012 | 4:30 - 7 P.M.
Moot Court (Room 100), Law Building (3644 rue Peel)

FACULTY COUNCIL REPORT

March 14th, 2012

Ce mois-ci, le Conseil de la Faculté a été surtout préoccupé par des questions concernant les études supérieures, alors en tant que vos représentants de premier cycle nous avons peu à vous rapporter.

La question à savoir si la bourse Ogilvy Renault devrait être renommée la bourse Norton Rose Canada pour refléter le changement de nom de la firme donatrice originale fut controversée de façon pour le moins surprenante. Après un vif débat sur la question, qui englobait aussi une discussion à savoir si et quand il était approprié pour des firmes d'avoir des salles, des buildings, des bourses et des chaires nommés en leur noms, le Conseil de la Faculté en est venu à une décision : le nom serait changé.

Other name changes included that of the courses currently known as European Community Law I & II, which shall henceforth be known as European Union Law I & II... until the EU decides to disband! (That's Michael's joke – don't blame us if it is lame).

Moving now to substantive curriculum issues, Employment Law (LEEL 570) was added to the transsystemic basket, and will count as 1.5 credits towards each of the common law and civil law course requirements. Labour Law (LEEL 369) was added to the Complementary Human Rights and Social Diversity basket.

Finally, recruitment efforts at the faculty continue at a high pace, as the Hiring Committee seeks to fill a number of vacancies in the coming years. Students are encouraged to attend the question and answer sessions that will allow them to meet potential professors and provide feedback.

Eden Alexander
Pascale April
Eric Brousseau
Michael Shortt
Derek Zeisman

EASTER BREAK @ THE CAF

By Michèle Lamarre-Leroux, LSA VP Internal (Ongoing Events)

Please note the following opening hours for the cafeteria during Easter Break in April:

Thursday the 5th: 7h30-17h30

Friday 6th and Monday 9th: Closed

Also, Scott, the cafeteria manager, wants to you what YOU want to eat! He is making big changes to add some variety to the menu, so please let him or myself know what YOU want to eat. Parlez-lui à la cafeteria ou encore envoyez-moi un courriel à vp-internal.lsa@mail.mcgill.ca

AISHA
TOPSAKAL

UPCOMING EVENTS

Therapeutic Paws of Canada at the Faculty of Law

Come join us for some “puppy love” in the Atrium, **le vendredi 30 mars de 11h00 à 13h00!** Therapeutic Paws of Canada will visit us with a canine friend who will teach you how to reduce stress and balance your lifestyle through community-building. Venez décrocher et faire le plein d’énergie positive grâce à quelques câlins poilus.

Sponsored by the Mary H. Brown Fund & The Debra Grobstein Campbell and Barry Campbell Fund. Organized by the Faculty of Law and the McGill School of Environment. Cupcakes will be served.



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Debra Grobstein Campbell
and Barry Campbell

Sponsored by the Mary H. Brown Fund & The Debra Grobstein Campbell and Barry Campbell Fund. Organized by the Faculty of Law & McGill School of Environment. Refreshments will be served.





DAVID
GROVES

THE OPTIMIST

MR. DAISEY AND THE MEDIA INDUSTRY

Back in January, the radio show “This American Life” aired an episode called “Mr. Daisey and the Apple Factory”. It was based on a piece performed by monologist Mike Daisey about his investigation into Foxconn, a Chinese company that makes iPads, iPhones, and various other iProducts. He told stories of chemical poisoning, of underage workers, and of armed guards preventing anyone from entering or exiting the factory. It was a brutal exposé and it prompted, like any good piece of journalism, long and tough discussions about what responsibility we as consumers have to our producers. It was also the most downloaded episode in *This American Life* history, triggering an extensive bout of media inquiry and criticism towards Apple and Foxconn. Not only was it stirring stuff, it actually had an effect.

So you can understand why people were so angry when it turned out to be mostly made-up. Daisey had been to the factories in China, had interviewed workers, and had done some degree of traditional investigative journalism, but he larded the piece with imagined vignettes about 12-year old workers and perpetual video surveillance, none of which held up to even moderate scrutiny. In the end, *This American Life* had to dedicate a full episode (“Retraction”) to all the various fudges and fabrications they had unwittingly put on air. The episode culminated with an extremely painful interview with Mike Daisey in which he defended his actions on the lines that, as a theatrical performer and not a journalist, he should be held to a lower standard. Elsewhere, he stated that his goal was only “to get the media to pay attention to an issue that had previ-

ously been ignored”. Of course, it hadn’t really been ignored: there are numerous reporters on the Foxconn beat already, many of whom worry that Daisey has, by lying so egregiously, given the company something of a free pass.

The whole sad debacle raises an interesting question for us as modern media consumers: when do we expect to be told the unvarnished truth? More and more, news is coming to the public in non-traditional forms – twitter feeds, amateur online journalism, WikiLeaks, Reddit, whatever. How do we know who to believe? Of course, trusting what you hear has always been a problem (there’s nothing new about tabloids). What makes the modern predicament different is that the volume and variety of sources and formats available to us, from podcasts to livefeeds to viral videos, make careful discernment difficult. If what Daisey does looks like journalism, is broadcast on a radio show that often (but not always) features journalism, and makes no effort to distinguish its journalistic elements from its fictional ones, how are we supposed to identify it as “theatre?”

The Daily Show is another excellent example of this problem. Since the mid-2000s, the show has transformed from a low-key late-night satire into a genuine news source for young, progressive Americans. It has done so by combining a very particular political perspective with smart, biting, and often hyperbolic comedy. Both make for great TV. Neither are conducive to journalistic neutrality. Jon Stewart has walked the difficult line of being both an entertainer and a news source by insisting that his allegiance is more to humour

than to accuracy. But when the show turns its ire on a particular target, it can have a real political impact. If people listen to what he says the way they would listen to a journalist, what difference does it make if he refuses to accept that mantle?

Complicating all this, our expectations of accuracy often dovetail with our expectations of civility. When Rush Limbaugh called Georgetown law student Sandra Fluke “a slut”, his defenders asserted that he’s an entertainer, and thus shouldn’t be expected to speak or act like a politician or a journalist might. But millions of Americans listen to him every day as a source of news and analysis. If so, why shouldn’t he be held to a higher standard of decency? Or is it the responsibility of Rush’s audience to separate the facts from the invective?

As entertainment and reporting start to blend in more and more complex ways, these are the kinds of questions we as media consumers are going to struggle with. Mike Daisey tricked *This American Life* (and me) because he masked his fiction in the form of journalism, creating a story that managed to be both sensational and plausible at the same time. If we accept his argument that journalism and theatre are different art forms and thus have different standards, we then have to ask how we can tell the two apart. In an age of 24/7 media saturation, what is art and what is truth?

OVERHEARD AT THE FAC

1L: Getting through that Foundations reading was like slowly drinking a glass of sand.

Guest speaker in IP: The 1980s weren't just an ironic memory I bring up while wearing American Apparel.

Prof. Glenn: Class actions are like guacamole.

Prof Gold: I like playing devil's advocate because I'm usually a better advocate for things I don't believe in than I am for my actual beliefs. [Pause] That's kind of sad.

Prof. Macdonald: I spent a lot of time in my basement with a sledgehammer busting up all the extra records I made in the 60s.

Prof. Smith: I'm losing control of this class... I never should have worn this casual shirt.

Prof. Gold: So far no one has offered me enough money to sell my soul. In fact, no one has offered me any money. I thought I'd be able to get a free lunch for my soul... or at least a free sandwich.

quid.overheard@gmail.com

**SUMMER IS RIGHT AROUND
THE CORNER...**

**NEXT WEEK IS THE
LAST ISSUE OF THE QUID
FOR 2011-2012!**

**Vous avez quelque chose à dire?
C'est votre dernière chance!**

quid.law@mcgill.ca

Date de tombée:

JEUDI LE 29 MARS 2012 À 17 H